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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Walters Jr.
Serial No.: 09/579,050
For: EASY OPEN CONTAINER CLOSURE
Filed: May 26, 2000
Examiner: N. Eloshway
Group Art Unit: 3727

Attorney Docket No.: 359.6559USU

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 19, 2001, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

- Sub B17
1. (Amended) An easy open, reusable closure apparatus for a container having a neck with a terminal end having an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, an upper portion, and a lower portion, comprising:
- a cap portion having a top panel, a peripherally depending side wall comprising an inner surface that conforms to said bead outer surface and a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that engages said bead undercut securing said closure to said container, and a peripherally depending skirt; and

a¹
concl. a handle depending from said cap portion.

Please cancel claim 2.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 5, wherein said inner surface abuts the outer surface of said container neck upper portion over an extended length wherein said inner surface is substantially vertical relative to the plane of said top panel.

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

13. (Amended) A method of opening a container using the easy open, reusable closure apparatus for a container having a neck with a terminal end having an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, an upper portion, and a lower portion, comprising:

a cap portion having a top panel, a peripherally depending side wall having a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that engages said bead undercut securing said closure to said container, and a peripherally depending skirt; and

a handle depending from said cap portion, said handle further comprising an upper portion, a lower portion, and a fulcrum portion there between said upper and lower portions; the method comprising the steps of:

holding the neck of said container and the lower handle portion of said handle with at least one hand; and

depressing said lower handle portion toward said neck of said container until said peripheral lip disengages said bead undercut.